

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/669,744

Examiner

Thomas A. Morrison

Applicant(s)

TSUNEMATSU, SHINICHIRO

Art Unit

3653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's 7/20/2006 amendment.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10 and 14-19.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Charles Watts (Reg. No. 33,142) on 8/14/2006.

IN THE CLAIMS:

In claim 1, line 15 after "having", "a" has been replaced with -- at least one --.

In claim 1, line 20, after "along said", "grooves" has been replaced with -- at least one groove --.

In claim 3, line 2, before "groove", -- at least one -- has been inserted.

In claim 6, line 1, after "said", -- at least one groove of said -- has been inserted.

In claim 6, lines 1-2, after "member", "has, as said groove" has been deleted.

In claim 6, line 1, after "member", -- includes -- has been inserted.

In claim 7, line 1 after "claim", "6" has been replaced with -- 1 --.

In claim 7, line 1, after "said", -- at least one groove of said -- has been inserted.

In claim 7, line 1, after "member", "has" has been replaced with -- includes --.

In claim 7, line 2, after "of", "said" has been deleted.

In claim 7, line 2, after "engagement", "grooves," has been deleted.

In claim 7, line 2, after "engagement", -- grooves having engagement sections, respectively, for engaging said slide pin; -- has been inserted.

In claim 7, line 2, before "said slide", -- a plurality of slide grooves for peripheral speed difference disposed in series with said engagement grooves, respectively, along a periphery of said disc member; and a plurality of slide grooves for manuscript interval disposed in series with said slide grooves for peripheral speed difference, respectively, and disposed in a manner extending from said slide grooves for peripheral speed difference, respectively, to the periphery of said disc member; wherein -- has been inserted.

In claim 7, line 3 after "interval", -- are disposed respectively -- has been inserted.

In claim 7, line 4 after "disc", "member," has been deleted.

In claim 7, line 4 before "and", -- member; -- has been inserted.

In claim 7, line 4 before "each", -- wherein -- has been inserted.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With regard to independent claims 1, 14 and 18, the closest prior art reference of record is Japanese Publication No. 6-263273. This Japanese publication fails to disclose or suggest a planetary gear support section provided at an end portion of a rotation shaft of a separation roller, as required by claims 1, 14, 18 and their dependent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas A. Morrison whose telephone number is (571) 272-7221. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8am - 5pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Mackey can be reached on (571) 272-6916. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

08/21/2006



PATRICK MACKEY
PRIMARY EXAMINER